

REMARKS

Applicants have received and reviewed the Office Action dated February 4, 2010. By way of response, Applicants have canceled claims 7 and 20, amended claims 1-3, 6 and 8-19 and added new claims 22-26. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-6, 8-19 and 21-26 are pending.

Applicants submit that the amended and newly presented claims are supported by the specification as filed. New claim 22 generally corresponds to former claim 2. New claims 23, 24, and 25 recite as methods material recited in claims 12, 13 and 21, respectively.

For the reasons presented below, Applicants respectfully submit that the amended and newly presented claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 6-21 were rejected under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form. Claim 6 is now an independent claim with proper dependent claims. Claims 7 and 20 have been canceled, which renders this objection moot for these claims.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this objection.

Rejection of Claim Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

The Examiner rejected claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, in an enablement rejection. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 20 has been canceled, which renders this rejection moot.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the amended and newly presented claims fully comply with § 112, first paragraph, and withdrawal of this rejection is earnestly solicited.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner rejected claims 6-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 7 and 20 have been canceled, which renders the rejection moot with respect to these claims. Although these rejections have not been applied to the newly presented claims, they are discussed insofar as they might apply. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Amended claim 6 includes structure and is a system claim from which claims 8-19 and 21 depend.

The Office Action objected to the recitation of “the responding enterprise” in claim 10. Amended claim 10 recites “a responding enterprise”.

The Office Action objected to the recitation in claim 14 of “conventional accounting process” and “at both ends”. Amended claim 14 does not include these recitations.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the amended and newly presented claims fully comply with § 112, second paragraph, and withdrawal of this rejection is earnestly solicited.

Rejection of Claim Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner rejected claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Examiner also rejected claims 6-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter for reciting both a method and a system. Claims 7 and 20 have been canceled, which renders these rejections moot with respect to these claims. Although these rejections have not been applied to the newly presented claims, they are discussed insofar as they might apply. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Amended claim 1 recites that the method maintains a database on a recordable medium. Thus, the method of claim 1 transforms the recordable medium. The method includes a transformation, which according to the “machine or transformation” test makes the method patentable subject matter. In addition, claim 2 recites that at least a portion of the method employs a processor, which is a machine. Thus, the presently claimed method can include both a

machine and a transformation and is patentable subject matter. In addition, claim 5 includes generating reports, which are another transformation.

Claims 6, 8-19 and 21 recite a system. A system is patentable subject matter.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the amended and newly presented claims fully comply with § 101 and withdrawal of this rejection is earnestly solicited.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) or 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-10, 13-16 and 20-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Harif, US 2002/0087881. The Examiner rejected claims 5 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Harif. The Examiner rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Harif, in view of Official Notice. The Examiner rejected claims 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Harif in view of Smith et al., US 2002/0147668. Claims 7 and 20 have been canceled, which renders these rejections moot with respect to these claims. Although these rejections have not been applied to the newly presented claims, they are discussed insofar as they might apply. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The presently claimed invention is directed towards a method and system of maintaining concurrent accounts between two entities involved in business transaction.

In contrast, the cited Harif reference discloses identifying and binding a process in a heterogeneous network. The cited Harif reference discloses that the process can be deployed in networks of computational devices, and more particularly to identifying and binding a process using such a network. The cited Harif reference discloses system, method, and program for identifying and binding a process, which could also be utilized to acquire secure and anonymous processing. According to this cited reference creating a system, method, and program for enabling an electronic commerce network would also be desired, as would a system method and program for bidding for a best solution process execution in said network. The desired method would maintain security and anonymity for all involved while providing non-repudiable financial accounting and account resolution.

The cited Harif reference is directed towards an authenticable, transactional identity, which could be utilized to acquire secure and anonymous processing. This reference discloses a system, method and program for identifying and binding a process, a network server receives and analyzes a request for process execution associated with a task and packages the request such that the task may be completed (Abstract - Page 1). The Harif reference discloses the ability of the client to pay for the processing, indicating its focus as an e-commerce related network-processing system (paragraph 13). The system indicates the structuring of the message that flows from the client to the server and the contents of the payload. The essential features of the payload include the "bid receiving", "bid validation" etc which indicate the flow of financial bids (paragraph 43).

The system indicates the structuring of the message that flows from the client to the server and the contents of the payload. The essential features of the payload include the "bid receiving", "Bid validation" etc which indicate the flow of financial bids. A close scrutiny of the cited Harif application reveals that the objective is to enable establishment of a "Protocol" for heterogeneous computing devices to communicate with the server. The Harif reference makes a reference to the Internet system which uses HTTP as a means of exchange of information supported by the TCP/IP as the means of identifying the computers of the network (paragraph 7).

The Harif reference makes a reference to the Internet system, which uses HTTP as a means of exchange of information supported by the TCP/IP as the means of identifying the computers of the network. In particular, the background information discusses the digital signature system of authentication. A mention is also made of the digital cash system and online payment system through credit cards. These are presented with the conclusion that a need exists for non-repudiable fiscal responsibility for the purchase of goods and services and a desirability to create a system, method and program to provide increased security, anonymity and non repudiable fiscal responsibility to electronic commerce (paragraph 15).

Recognizing the proliferation of different types of computational devices and different types of the users who use the network services, the background of the invention as mentioned in the Harif reference argues that it is desirable to provide the ability to perform intensive data

processing to users who on their own, would never be able to buy maintain or staff the data centers necessary to perform intensive data processing. The desirability of reducing or eliminating high capacity server farms or large-scale IT equipment as well as the need to operate such equipment within secured facilities is also highlighted (paragraph 16).

A system method and program to create an authenticatable, non-repudiable transactional identity which could be utilized to acquire secure and anonymous processing is therefore considered as a desirable objective according to the Harif reference. The disclosure in the Harif reference of the system reiterates how the design of the system meets the above objectives. The description of the system uses the typical model of a client and a server with the server being a combination of a "Transaction/Application Server" and "A third party Server to which certain functions are outsourced". This third party server is referred to as "Network Server" and is the key component on which the patent claims are structured (paragraph 17).

With respect to a method, the Harif reference discloses that the network server may also act as an intermediary between the client and the host in negotiating a price for the execution of the process. This establishes that the utilization of the "Network Server" is envisaged in the context of "Processing Bids". This method is relevant for software used by auction and reverse auction sites, which provide comparison of quotes from different sources (Id.).

The Harif reference discloses "Binding" as to mean to ensure that the information provided by the client with the programming instructions to create independent processing robots or agents, which can be propagated to the hosts. The purpose of such binding is to enable the server to examine the data and its associated processing instructions prior to propagation for security reasons. In a way, this refers to the "Authentication" process of the input before it is further processed (Id.).

The Harif reference discloses a typical credit card processing system on the Internet where the client is the purchaser, the host is the Merchant website and the Financial Resource Center is the Payment Gateway. The system also indicates that additional processes can be accessed by the client through the host. This only indicates that the host itself is supported by other application servers whose functionality is invoked by the client (paragraph 17).

In contrast, the presently claimed invention is directed towards a Method And System Of Accounting Transactions Through Concurrent Processing Of Events In Cyber Space. The present invention provides a novel method of Cyber Space based Accounting of intra-enterprise and inter- enterprise transactions on a real-time basis. It uses a unique system of recording of the transaction elements in Cyber Space in shared, transient and archived databanks securely accessible by multiple members of the system. It is designed to generate self configured information extracts on the fly, to meet the accounting needs of the members.

The presently claimed methods and systems do not merely substitute Electronic documents in place of paper documents. It is a whole new method of real time accounting based on "Event" as a transaction trigger with appropriate handles created for electronic processing of the "Event".

The presently claimed methods and systems are designed to generate concurrent accounting entries on a real time basis. However, in one embodiment version, the system is capable of both real time and non real time operation. In other words, if the accounting entities are online when a transaction event is reported to the system, the accounting happens in real time. If the users are not online, when the event is first reported to the system, it will be temporarily stored in the user's computer where it is created and update the system at other computers whenever the user goes online and interacts with the application.

The presently claimed methods and systems enable the concurrent processing of events in cyber space by predefined handles. Further, they enable real time accounting based on "Event" as a transaction trigger with appropriate handles created for electronic processing of the "Event".

The secondary Smith et al. reference does not remedy the shortcomings of the primary reference. The Smith et al. reference discloses an automated, mobile method for remotely managing the resources of a job-based business through real-time allocation of the resources among a set of user-defined virtual spending accounts. The Smith et al. reference discloses the job-based management of a business' financial resources through the allocation of resources to various user-defined accounts in an automated environment. The method, inter alia, enables the

user to establish two layers of virtual accounts, virtual job accounts and virtual allocation accounts, that interact with the user's actual accounts.

As opposed to the presently claimed system and method, which are directed towards maintaining transaction details between multiple entities involved in a financial transaction concurrently by means of a handle specifically for the purpose, the disclosure of the Smith et al. reference does not deal with maintaining consistency between transactions carried out between multiple entities, without wastage of resources due to duplication of data. Rather, the Smith et al. reference discloses employing a module performing tracking of financial transaction that does not perform concurrent updating of multiple transaction between multiple parties and classify them as floating and completed transactions in the manner as in the presently claimed invention.

Summary

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date:

4 June '10


Mark T. Skoog
Reg. No. 40,178

MTS:kf

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE